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Remarks/Arguments

Independent claims 1, 18, and 19 are each amended above to clarify that the recited sequencing is "for startup or shutdown" of the plurality of power supplies.

In section 4 of the Detailed Action, all of claims 1 to 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Goodrich et al. US Patent 7,111,018 (hereinafter Goodrich) in view of the Siemens document "Power System Simulator for Operations" (hereinafter Siemens). This rejection is respectfully traversed, for at least the following reasons:

With respect to claim 1, section 4 of the Detailed Action correctly recognizes that Goodrich does not disclose or suggest the steps of:

"receiving user input information to determine sequencing of the plurality of power supplies;

displaying on the display device a graphical display representing the sequencing of the plurality of power supplies; and

producing said configuration information for the control apparatus consistent with the displayed topology and sequencing of the plurality of power supplies".

It is also observed that claim 1 is directed to "a graphical interface method for producing configuration information for control apparatus for a power system". Goodrich does not disclose any such configuration information or any method for producing it.

The Detailed Action relies on Siemens for disclosing these steps which are not disclosed by Goodrich. However, contrary to the contentions in the Detailed Action, these steps are not all disclosed or suggested by Siemens.

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More particularly, Siemens does not disclose or suggest any configuration information as recited in claim 1. Siemens, like Goodrich, is concerned only with analysis or simulation of an operating power system, and is not concerned with configuration information.

In addition, Siemens does not disclose or suggest any step of "receiving user input information to determine sequencing for startup or shutdown of the plurality of power supplies" as now recited in claim 1. Siemens very briefly refers to "the Activity Sequence Control system" and "the same sequence impedance data" in relation to its "Short Circuit Analysis" of fault conditions. These are not disclosed as being "to determine sequencing for startup or shutdown of the plurality of power supplies" as recited in claim 1, and appear to be entirely different and for different purposes.

Further, Siemens does not disclose or suggest any step of "displaying on the display device a graphical display representing the sequencing of the plurality of power supplies" as recited in claim 1. Siemens discloses a graphical display, but there is no disclosure in Siemens of displaying any sequencing on the display, and especially not for displaying any sequencing for startup or shutdown of the plurality of power supplies as now required by claim 1. the contention in the Detailed Action that in Siemens "after running through the sequence operation the diagram displays information depicting the sequenced power circuits as well as the configuration information that is consistent with the displayed topology" appears not to be correct, as Siemens does not disclose either configuration information or startup or shutdown sequencing of power supplies.

In addition, Siemens does not produce any configuration information as recited in claim 1.

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As several features of the invention as claimed in claim 1 are not disclosed or suggested by either Goodrich or Siemens, they are also not disclosed by any combination of the references, and claim 1 is not unpatentable over these references.

Similar remarks apply to each of the independent claims 18 and 19, and similar differences apply between the methods as recited in these claims and the disclosures of Goodrich and Siemens. For substantially the same reasons, each of claims 18 and 19 is also not unpatentable over any combination of these references.

The dependent claims 2-17 and 20-25 are also not unpatentable over the applied references for the same reasons in view of their dependencies, as well as their own recitals of further features that are not disclosed or suggested by either Goodrich or Siemens.

In particular, for example, each of dependent claims 5 to 11 and 22 to 24 recites particular features of representing the sequencing of power supplies, which are not disclosed or suggested by Goodrich or Siemens. In this respect the Detailed Action refers erroneously to Figs. 22-29 of Goodrich. However, as clearly described in Goodrich at column 14, lines 20-44, these illustrate the hierarchy of the power systems equipment, and they do not represent any sequencing for startup or shutdown as required by these claims.

The Detailed Action further refers to Siemens as showing "arrows representing the sequencing (See page 7) e.g. - 376mv to pacific". The symbols used in this figure of Siemens appear not to be explained therein. They appear to relate to power flows, but in any event they do not represent any sequencing as recited in claims 7, 9, and 24 of this application.

For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of claims 1-25 of this application, as now amended, clearly and patentably distinguish the invention from the applied references, and are allowable.

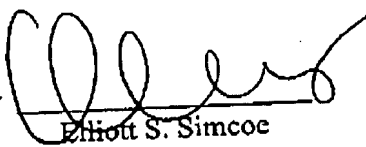
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As the Detailed Action does not address in particular any of the numerous other references listed in the Notice of References Cited, no comments on these are believed to be necessary.

The Applicant therefore respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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